BERKELEY

PLANNING The City of Berkeley has facilitated a large array of transit oriented planning and development projects an the immediate vicinity of the Downtown Berkeley BART Station. Major completed projects include the award wining Gaia Building (267 dwelling units per acre) and other high density residential projects, expansion of Berkeley Repertory Theatre, numerous new arts venues and related businesses. A major new initiative involves plans for a downtown hotel, conference center, and a University of California art museum complex adjacent to the BART Rotunda. BART continues to support the City's other initiatives to enhance transit access, create a safe and attractive public environment, and foster Downtown Berkeley's renaissance.

ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS The plan to consolidate bus and shuttle locations that reduce street congestion, create a BART patron drop-off location in front of the station, relocate taxi services to a more conducive location and conserve merchant parking was completed in Fall 2003. The City is currently working with BART on installing maps showing the new locations and directional signage.

Other efforts include BART partnering with the City of Berkeley and securing funding from TFCA and local transportation funds to develop a new design for the existing bicycle station. The goal for the new design is to improve the capacity and aesthetics of the bicycle station, while providing facilities and the flexibility that will decrease the subsidy needed for operating costs. The new design will be a joint effort to ensure BART's operational, engineering and security requirements are built into the design. Downtown Berkeley's bike station, currently accommodating over 90 patrons and their bikes on a daily basis.

REINVESTMENT This station had new, energy efficient lighting fixtures and lamps installed inside the station in 2002, as part of ongoing station renovation programs, and will have new, ADA-compliant platform edge tiles installed, pending the receipt of grant funds.